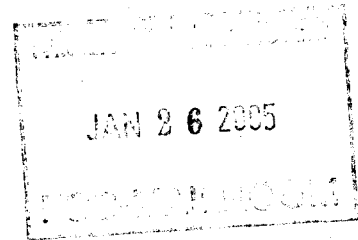


Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554



In the matter of)

Second Periodic Review of the)
Commission's Rules and Policies)
Affecting the Conversion)
To Digital Television)

MB Docket No. 03-15

**ORDER GRANTING FURTHER EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE
FIRST ROUND DTV CHANNEL ELECTION FORMS**

Adopted: January 24, 2005

Released: January 24, 2005

By the Chief, Media Bureau:

1. On August 4, 2004, the Commission adopted a *Report and Order*¹ in the above-captioned proceeding that, among other things, established a channel election process through which television broadcast licensees and permittees will select their ultimate digital channel inside the core television spectrum (*i.e.*, channels 2-51). The channel election process commenced in October 2004 with the filing of FCC Form 381, the Pre-Election Certification form. The channel election process will continue with three rounds of channel elections, the first round of which was scheduled to take place in December 2004 with the filing of FCC Form 382.² The *Report and Order* did not specify a precise date in December for the filing of FCC Form 382. On December 17, 2004, the Media Bureau extended the period for filing the first round channel election forms to January 27, 2005.³

2. On January 14, 2005, we received a request from the Association of Federal Communications Consulting Engineers ("AFCCE") for a further 45 day extension of the January 27, 2005 deadline for filing FCC Form 382.⁴ AFCCE argues that a further extension is necessary to give consulting engineering firms more time to respond to the large volume of data and requests from clients in connection with the channel election process and to understand the policies and procedures the FCC will use in performing its interference conflict analysis. AFCCE also argues that a further extension of the filing deadline will give stations more time to negotiate and finalize negotiated channel arrangements which, if approved, will streamline the channel election process by reducing the overall number of interference conflicts requiring resolution.

¹ *Report and Order*, 19 FCC Rcd 18,279 (2004).

² *Id.* at 18,297, ¶ 43.

³ See *Order Granting Extension of Time to File First Round DTV Channel Election Forms*, MB Docket No. 03-15, DA 04-3923, released December 21, 2004. The Media Bureau granted the extension in response to a request filed by the Association for Maximum Service Television, Inc. ("MSTV").

⁴ See Request for Extension of the January 27, 2005 Deadline for Filing FCC Form 382, filed January 14, 2005.

3. In view of our interest in a smooth and accurate channel election process, we hereby grant AFCCE's request in part and will extend the period for filing the first round channel election forms (FCC Form 382) until February 10, 2005. Thus, FCC Form 382, which is now available for filing on the FCC's website,⁵ may be filed any time through February 10, 2005. This brief further delay in the filing deadline will assist stations that require additional time to make first round channel election decisions and could result in better informed decisions and reduced potential for interference conflicts. We note that most television stations will be filing an election in the first round of the channel election process.

4. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that the Request for Extension of the January 27, 2005 Deadline for Filing FCC Form 382, filed in MB Docket 03-15 by AFCCE, is GRANTED to the extent described herein.

5. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the period for filing FCC Form 382 in the above-captioned proceeding IS EXTENDED through February 10, 2005.

6. This action is taken pursuant to authority found in Sections 4(i) and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i) and 303(r), and Sections 0.204(b), 0.283, and 1.45 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.204(b), 0.283, and 1.45.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

W. Kenneth Ferree
Chief, Media Bureau

⁵ See <http://www.fcc.gov>.